

under this chapter to \$24,000, making the limitation inapplicable to cases of permanent total disability or death, and providing that in applying the limitation there shall not be taken into account any amount payable under section 908(g) of this title for maintenance during rehabilitation or any amount of additional compensation required to be paid under this section for delay or default in the payment of compensation or any amount accruing as interest upon defaulted compensation collectible under section 918 of this title.

1961—Subsec. (m). Pub. L. 87-87 increased limitation on total money allowance as compensation for injury from “\$17,280” to “\$24,000”.

1956—Subsec. (m). Act July 26, 1956, provided for maximum money allowance of \$17,280 in lieu of total compensation of \$11,000, struck out additional former limit of \$10,000 for disabilities compensable under section 908(c)(21) of this title, and inserted provision excepting from \$17,280 limitation, amounts payable under section 908(g) of this title for maintenance during rehabilitation, and amounts payable under this section for delay or default in payment of compensation or interest collectible under section 918 of this title.

1948—Subsec. (m). Act June 24, 1948, increased overall statutory maximum limitation upon compensation for disability from \$7,500 to \$11,000, and fixed a sublimitation of \$10,000 upon that particular compensation for permanent partial disability which is payable when the case is classified as one in which compensation shall be payable under section 908(c)(21) of this title, but neither limitation shall apply for permanent total disability or death.

1938—Subsec. (f). Act June 25, 1938, inserted “and an interlocutory injunction staying payments is allowed by the court as provided therein”.

1934—Subsec. (j). Act May 26, 1934, substituted “in the interest of justice” for “for the best interests of a person entitled to compensation”, inserted “or any part thereof as determined by the deputy commissioner with the approval of the Commission”, and inserted provision for determining probability of remarriage.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 13 of Pub. L. 98-426 effective 90 days after Sept. 28, 1984, and applicable both with respect to claims filed after such 90th day and to claims pending on such 90th day, and amendment by section 27(a)(2) of Pub. L. 98-426 effective Sept. 28, 1984, see section 28(b), (e)(1) of Pub. L. 98-426, set out as a note under section 901 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1972 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 92-576 effective 30 days after Oct. 27, 1972, see section 22 of Pub. L. 92-576, set out as a note under section 902 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1961 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 87-87 effective as to injuries sustained on or after July 14, 1961, see section 4 of Pub. L. 87-87, set out as a note under section 906 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1956 AMENDMENT

Amendment by act July 26, 1956, applicable only with respect to injuries and death occurring on or after July 26, 1956, see section 9 of act July 26, 1956, set out as a note under section 906 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1948 AMENDMENT

Amendment by act June 24, 1948, applicable to death or injuries occurring after June 24, 1948, see section 6 of act June 24, 1948, set out as a note under section 906 of this title.

§ 915. Invalid agreements

(a) No agreement by an employee to pay any portion of premium paid by his employer to a carrier or to contribute to a benefit fund or department maintained by such employer for the

purpose of providing compensation or medical services and supplies as required by this chapter shall be valid, and any employer who makes a deduction for such purpose from the pay of any employee entitled to the benefits of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000.

(b) No agreement by an employee to waive his right to compensation under this chapter shall be valid.

(Mar. 4, 1927, ch. 509, § 15, 44 Stat. 1434.)

§ 916. Assignment and exemption from claims of creditors

No assignment, release, or commutation of compensation or benefits due or payable under this chapter, except as provided by this chapter, shall be valid, and such compensation and benefits shall be exempt from all claims of creditors and from levy, execution, and attachment or other remedy for recovery or collection of a debt, which exemption may not be waived.

(Mar. 4, 1927, ch. 509, § 16, 44 Stat. 1434.)

§ 917. Lien against compensation

Where a trust fund which complies with section 186(c) of title 29 established pursuant to a collective-bargaining agreement in effect between an employer and an employee covered under this chapter has paid disability benefits to an employee which the employee is legally obligated to repay by reason of his entitlement to compensation under this chapter or under a settlement, the Secretary shall authorize a lien on such compensation in favor of the trust fund for the amount of such payments.

(Mar. 4, 1927, ch. 509, § 17, 44 Stat. 1434; June 25, 1938, ch. 685, § 8, 52 Stat. 1167; Pub. L. 92-576, § 20(b), Oct. 27, 1972, 86 Stat. 1264; Pub. L. 95-598, title III, § 324, Nov. 6, 1978, 92 Stat. 2679; Pub. L. 98-426, § 14, Sept. 28, 1984, 98 Stat. 1649.)

AMENDMENTS

1984—Pub. L. 98-426 struck out “(b)” before “Where a trust fund which complies”, substituted “covered under this chapter” for “entitled to compensation under this chapter”, and substituted “this chapter or under a settlement, the Secretary shall authorize” for “this chapter, the Secretary may authorize”.

1978—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-598 repealed provision for lien of person entitled to compensation without limit of amount against assets of carrier or employer and for preference and priority in distribution of assets of such carrier or employer, or both upon insolvency, bankruptcy, or reorganization in bankruptcy proceedings of the carrier or employer, or both.

1972—Pub. L. 92-576 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

1938—Act June 25, 1938, amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows: “Compensation shall have the same preference of lien against the assets of the carrier or employer without limit of amount as is now or may hereafter be allowed by law to the claimant for unpaid wages or otherwise”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-426 effective Sept. 28, 1984, and applicable both with respect to claims filed after such date and to claims pending on such date, see section 28(a) of Pub. L. 98-426, set out as a note under section 901 of this title.